



January 28, 2020

Chairman Jan Schakowsky
Ranking Member Cathy McMorris Rodgers
Energy & Commerce Subcommittee on Consumer Affairs and Commerce
2125 Rayburn HOB
US House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Schakowsky and Ranking Member McMorris Rodgers:

I would like to thank the committee for allowing me the opportunity to share my support of HR 1754, the Horseracing Integrity Act of 2019. My name is Terry Finley, and I'm CEO of West Point Thoroughbreds, the largest Thoroughbred racehorse partnership in the country. Our company owned part of the 2017 Kentucky Derby winner, Always Dreaming.

I am also a board member of the New York Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association (NYTHA). NYTHA represents the owners and trainers of New York Thoroughbred racing. New York leads the nation in betting handle, purses offered, and number of graded stakes races, the highest echelon of the game. It is truly the epicenter of North American racing.

In both capacities as an owner and NYTHA Board Member, I strongly support the Horseracing Integrity Act. I have been a racing fan since childhood, and as it has become my livelihood. I am very concerned about the role of medications in our business. Integrity in any sport is a crucial pillar of success, but in a sport that relies on the wagering dollar, integrity is the very foundation of our existence.

As a racing partnership with horses spread all over the country, West Point Thoroughbreds has a unique perspective on the regulatory deficiencies in American racing. Few if any owners in the U.S. race in more places than we do.

This past year, we had 20 horses in Southern California, training and racing at Santa Anita Park amid the firestorm over the high number of fatal equine injuries. It was a crisis that could not be explained away or rationalized, to our clients or to the American public. It was a point of no return for our industry. Either embrace major reforms or continue down the road to ruin.

People in the industry have worked hard over the past decades to implement the National Uniform Medication Program (NUMP), but because of our fractured regulatory system, few of the 38 state racing jurisdictions have embraced it.

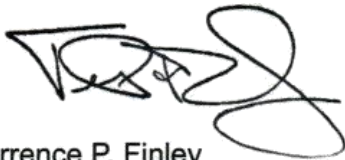
That is why federal legislation is needed. Horse racing doesn't have the luxury of a Commissioner of Racing who can dictate policies that are good for the game. Instead, we have separate fiefdoms that fight like crazy for their piece of the pie, with little regard to the overall health of the industry.

HR 1754 provides a common sense structure to our byzantine anti-doping system. A single, independent, non-governmental, non-conflicted organization will apply uniform rules and penalties. Honest trainers in New York would be able to race in Pennsylvania without hiring a chemist to navigate the different medication rules. Trainers caught cheating in one state would no longer be able to pick up their tack and move their barn to another state. Horse owners and bettors will know they are racing in and wagering on clean races.

HR 1754 will reinvigorate racing.

Racing has many challenges, (all industries do) but integrity shouldn't be one of them. As a member of NYTHA and the proud owner of West Point Thoroughbreds, I strongly urge your Committee to pass HR 1754, the Horseracing Integrity Act.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Finley', with a large, stylized flourish extending from the end.

Terrence P. Finley